



## **Regional Service Council Minutes Region # 17**

**Meeting Date:** July, 19, 2013

**Meeting Location:** Dubois County DCS Office

**Council Members Present:** Director Berry, Darlene McBride, Connie Branch, David Galloway, Lisa Smith, Melissa Lueken, Sandy Bowman, and Judge Weikert.

**Council Members Absent:** RM Lesko, Kim Donnelly, Cheryl Hillenburg, Judge Dartt, and Melisa Tye.

**Others In Attendance:** Nancy Rennie, Pam Keiser, John Schroder, Jessica Richardson, Megan Whitehead, Keith Lindsey, Mary Beaver, Micci Frye, Elizabeth Monahan, Janice Williams, Kris Mann, and Michael Singleton.

<b>Meeting Minutes</b>
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**Meeting Called to Order at:** 8:33 by Director Mendy Berry. Roll call was held.

Director Berry asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from the previous meeting. Council member Lisa Smith made a motion to approve the meetings minutes and council member Darlene McBride seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as read.

### **Programs/Committee Report**

**Regional Services Coordinator's Report:** Micci Frye who will be filling in for Darcy Durbin gave the report to the council. Micci informed the council they are in the negotiation phase for the Comprehensive RFP. Once the negotiation phase is complete they will proceed with contracts and training.

**Community Partners:** Kris Mann with IHBS gave a summary of the referrals for the month of June 30, 2013. As of June 30, 2013 a total of 105 open cases are currently being serviced through Community Partners for Child Safety in Region 17.

In the month of June, a total of 43 new referrals were made for consideration and 36 were serviced.

Of the referrals, one came from Crawford County, seventeen came from Daviess County, seven came from Dubois County, two came from Martin County, five from Orange County, three came from Perry County, and eight came from Spencer County.

Sources of the referrals (Partners) for this month included the Crawford County Department of Child Services, Daviess County Department of Child Services, Dubois County Department of Child Services, Martin County Department of Child Services, Orange County Department of Child Services, Spencer County Department of Child Services, Perry County Department of Child Services, Perry County School, Tri-Cap, and self referrals.

Closing Report: June 30, 2013

65 closed service cases

62 closed successfully 95%

Average 72 days open

Average 19.02 hours work per case.

Kris stated they had a booth at the Spencer County fair and plan to have booths at all of the fairs in our region. If our region would like for IHBS to go other places please let him know. Director Berry commended IHBS for getting out to schools and county fairs.

Discussion was held about how IHBS dealt with families who need funding over the \$300.00 cap.

**Regional Finance Manager:** John Schroder stated Region 17 informed council that as of the end of June Region 17 was \$644,000 over budget. Daviess County was the only county in our region that did not go over budget.

John stated he has not received the new budget.

John informed council there were increases in preservation services and a huge jump in miscellaneous cost to wards.

**Practice Model:** Darlene McBride informed there was Peer Coach Celebration and training held in Indianapolis all but two peer coaches got to attend. Pam Kiser, Director in Martin County is going to take over Darlene's responsibility.

In the month of June a two year PRT celebration was held at Ft. Harrison Park. Penny Livingston FCM in Orange County was chosen peer coach of the year. Congratulations to Penny.

**Regional Foster Care Specialist:** Melissa Lueken informed the council the new foster care specialist for Region 17 is Kristi Wilmes and the new relative care worker is Terri Williams. Region 17 will be hiring a new supervisor as well. Melissa is hopeful recruitments will increase.

**Fatherhood Initiative Program:** Kris Mann with IHBS stated currently there are six open cases and all six are actively engaging. One case has progressed to a THV and in another case the child is now calling dad “daddy”. The bond between child and dad is increasing-dad is traveling over two hours to visit.

Kris informed council the first conference on Fatherhood Initiative was put on by the state in June. It was a good conference and will now be an annual event.

**Safely Home Families First:** Director Berry stated to council we continue to work toward Safely Home Families First. Director Berry informed council that Director Bonaventura has addressed a lot of staff. She expects services to be provided.

Director Berry stated we have a lot of new staff. Director Berry stated the nursing consultants are new and are now being utilized. They are looking at kids in residential facilities who are on meds.

Our investigators have been really helpful in locating parents. The educational liaison has been helpful as well. Melissa Coots the clinical consultant has done a good job in keeping kids out of residential treatment facilities.

## **Old Business:**

**New Business:** Homebuilders presentation- Kris Mann reported IHBS is now doing the Homebuilders program for Region 17. Janice Williams will be the worker. Elizabeth Monahan is the supervisor of the program. Until trained Janice will only be doing placement prevention cases not reunification cases.

Discussion held about foster parents and the lack of them. Foster parent David Galloway brought up concern that foster parents have to pay for daycare. He feels this is a major issue.

Director Berry informed council that Director Connie Branch is retiring as of July 31, 2013. There will be an open house from 1:30-4:00 on July 31, 2013. Director Berry thanked Director Branch for her years of service.

**Public Testimony/Announcement:** None

**Next Meeting Date, Location and Time:** The next meeting will be September 20, 2013. It will be held at the Memorial Hospital Southside Office located at 1100 W. 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Jasper, IN. The meeting will start at 8:30 EST.

**Meeting adjourned at:** A motion to adjourn was made by Lisa Smith and seconded by Darlene McBride. The meeting adjourned at 9:45.